

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Advisory Action dated July 17, 2006, the Examiner indicated that the amendments made in applicant's Amendment After Final Rejection dated June 30, 2006 (filed on July 6, 2006) would not be entered because they raised new issues that would require further consideration and/or search. However, the Examiner also indicated that claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9-11, 15-19, 21-23, 27, 28 and 30, as amended or newly proposed in the aforementioned Amendment After Final Rejection, would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claims.

In making the amendments to the claims, and adding the new claims, contained in the present Amendment, applicant has assumed that the amendments to the claims and the new claims that were proposed in the previous Amendment After Final Rejection were not entered.

In the present Amendment, applicant has resubmitted claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9-11, 15-19, 21-23, 27, 28 and 30 (as new claim 29 – discussed below), as amended or newly proposed in the aforementioned Amendment After Final Rejection, and has canceled the remaining claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9-11, 15-19, 21-23, 27, 28 and 29 are in condition for allowance.

In the Amendment After Final Rejection filed on July 6, 2006, new claim 30 (which was indicated as being allowable in the Advisory Action) was dependent on claim 20, a claim which was not indicated as being in allowable condition. Accordingly, in the present Amendment, previous new claim 30 has been rewritten as an independent claim, incorporating all of the limitations of claim 20, and submitted as new claim 29.

In view of the amendments made in the present Amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Application No.: 10/690,411

Docket No.: 05500-00073-USC

Dated: August 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

William E. McShane

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

1007 North Orange Street

P.O. Box 2207

Wilmington, Delaware 19899

Registration No.: 32,707

(302) 658-9141

(302) 658-5614 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant

480339